THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T. G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The news report is based on the initiatives taken by the Government to attract private sector participation in the development and maintenance of National Highway.

(c) Uniform toll rates as an upper limit on completed 4-lane National Highways have been fixed, keeping in view the savings on vehicle operating costs, damages caused by different types of vehicles and the acceptability by the users.

(d) As per the present policy, the toll will be levied in perpetuity to finance future road development. However, in case of BOT projects, the right to collect toll by private entrepreneur is limited to the concession period after which the facility will revert back to the Government.

Quality Testing Laboratories Under Rural Water Supply programme in Gujarat

*2. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have established water quality testing laboratories under Rural Water Supply Programme in the State of Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof, district-wise;

(c) whether Governments propose to establish such laboratories in every district of the State; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The RGNDWM under the Ministry has a scheme under the Sub-Mission for sanctioning one water quality testing laboratory for each of the district in the country. Out of the 19 districts of Gujarat so far water quality testing laboratories for 16 districts have been sanctioned. The State has confirmed the establishment of laboratories in 14 districts. Proposals for the remaining 3 districts of Junagarh, Ahmedabad and Gandhi Nagar are awaited from the State Government.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Question does not arise.

"Jaipur Resolutions" on Centre-State Relations

*3. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government's attention has been drawn to the contents of "Jaipur Resolutions", adopted by the Chief Minister of Delhi, Haryana, Punjab, Maharashtra and Rajasthan at their Conference held on 25th June, 1997 in Jaipur; and

(b) if so, the reasons for inordinate delay in implementation of the recommendations of Sarkaria Commission which had submitted its Report 11 years back and how much time Government will take further?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Sarkaria Commission had submitted its report in January, 1988. The report contained 247 recommendations.

As decided in the first meeting of the Inter-State Council held on 10.10.1990, a Sub-Committee of the Inter-State Council

was constituted to examine the recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission on Centre-State relations and submit its views and recommendations to the Council. The tenure of the said Committee was extended from time to time, the last term being upto 30.6.1996. The work done by the Sub-Committee is summarised below:—

Number of recommendations

Accepted with/ without modifications	155
Not accepted	24
On which no concensus has been reached	11
Partially considered	1
Yet to be finalised	56
	247

The recommendations finalised by the Sub-Committee could not be considered by the Inter-State Council which remained dormant for about six years. The UF Government has reactivated the Council. The second meeting of the Council was held on 15.10.1996 wherein 179 recommendations finalised by the Sub-Committee were broadly endorsed. It was also recommended that there should be a Standing Committee of the Council for continuous consultations and processing of matters for the consideration of the council. The Standing Committee was constituted on 5.12.96. It has held four meetings so far. The following important subjects were discussed in these meetings:—

(i) Alternative Scheme of Devolution of share in Central Taxes to States submitted by the Ministry of Finance.

(ii) Amendment to article 356 of the Constitution.

(iii) Centre-State Financial Relations (Chapter X of the Sarkaria Commission's Report).

A draft consensus paper on the Role of Governor (Chapter-IV) of the Sarkaria Commission's report has been circulated to the Members of the Standing Committee and is proposed to be discussed in the fifth meeting of the Standing Committee).

The third meeting of the Inter-State Council was held on 17.7.1997. A major achievement of this meeting was approval of the alternative scheme of devolution of share in Central taxes to States. The share of the States will be 29% with effect from 1.4.1996. This will be reviewed in December 1997 with a view to improving it. No consensus emerged in this meeting on the question of amending article 356.

Instructions have been issued to the Administrative Ministries concerned to implement 54 recommendations as endorsed by the Inter-State Council. The Government is keen to complete action on the pending recommendations of the Sarkaria Commission at the earliest.

Employment Under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana in Karnataka

*4. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons provided with jobs under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) in the country during the last six months; and

(b) the number of persons provided with jobs under JRY in Karnataka during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU): (a) and

(b) Under Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), the physical performance is monitored in terms of mandays generation and not in number of persons provided with jobs. During the last six